

ON THE REVIEWER'S TABLE

"The Dangerous Age."

By Karin Michaels. With an introduction by Marcel Prevost. John Lane Co., of New York and London. \$1.20, net.

This novel is supposed to embody letters and fragments from a woman diary. It has been widely read and exploited, and appears in America as a translation from the Danish of Karin Michaels.

The Fortnightly Review is quoted as pronouncing it "a human document of supreme value, a book which cannot be read without emotion." In an admirable introduction Marcel Prevost says: "Karin Michaels has been inspired to write a study of womanhood without trying to interpose between her thought and the paper the mind and vision of a man. The outcome is astonishing. I have said that the construction of the novel is solid, but no man could have built it up in that way. It moves to a definite goal by a sure path, yet its style is variable like the ways of every woman, even if she be completely mistress of herself. Thus the slightest thought, like car-pier-pieces, never fail to reach their end, although at times they circle and hover as though troubled by some mysterious tendency or temptation to turn back from their course."

"The Dangerous Age," on which the experiences of the book are based, is not the period of extreme youth and inexperience, but the dreary waste of middle age, when a woman feels her charms waning one by one and the shadow of approaching old age, isolation and death begin to excise their baleful influence in robbing her days of joy and brightness.

It is difficult for an American woman to judge justly such a book as "The Dangerous Age," because her point of view is so radically different from that of such a Danish woman as Karin Michaels. It is revealed to be through her letters and her diary confidences. A perfectly sincere and candid feminine confession has probably never been written, never will be written. But every now and again a Marie Bashkirtseff or a Marie-Claire writes to the world something that bears a counterfeit resemblance to such a confession, and the world is greatly moved thereby.

A book that contained a truthful record of a human soul, if written, would revolt, not please. "The half-novel, half-dialogue, half-journal" type which was inaugurated by Marie Bashkirtseff has been followed in several instances since. In all such novels as these and as "The Dangerous Age," a note of intense egotism is struck and awakens curiosity by its abnormality. Karin Michaels increases this abnormality by a physiological and psychological element, which takes her book a step further in self-analysis than its predecessors.

The picture that is drawn in "The Dangerous Age" of a woman hiding herself in a lonely villa, apart from her husband and her world, that the decay of her youth and beauty may not be seen and commented upon, is pitiful indeed. The remoteness over the readiness with which husband and lover and the world can forget is tragic.

But Scandinavian and American womanhood, as has been said, are far apart in their principles of thought and their attitude toward men. The book is well constructed and well written, however, and it voices a fear which women of all countries have felt, often in secret but otherwise a fear of the future and of the time when Love will pass them by in forgetfulness, leaving them stranded and forlorn.

"When Woman Proposes." By Anne Farmer. Illustrated by Charlotte Weber Ditzler. Decorated by Theodore B. Haggood. Little, Brown & Company, of Boston. \$1.25 net.

The author of "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary" needs no recommendation to a reading public that already knows her individuality and charm in authorship.

She declares that the scene of this latest book is laid "in the Land of Nowhere," an uncharted empire of the future. Although she says further, more that she has developed the solution of familiar woes through the old remedy of the older methods of a woman loving with all her heart, she has denied, according to her custom, with the question in an altogether original and independent manner.

Her book is not crowded with many perplexing theories or fancies. A rich young girl in it is a widow with an ideal chaplain, wedded during her school days to an exceedingly wealthy old man who left her all of his money.

The youthful widow falls in love with an army officer, a captain, who does not consider his pay sufficient to think of matrimony, who is too honorable to marry a wealthy woman. But when a woman proposes to marry a man in spite of his well-intentioned scruples, and invokes extraordinary measures, within influence a whole nation to aid her in attaining her end, that end is clearly a forlorn matter.

In its make-up, the book with its color pictures and delicate decorative work, is as artistic as it is clever. Its bright breeziness and its refreshing wholesomeness may be added to its list of attractions.

"The Conflict." By David Graham Phillips. D. Appleton & Company, of New York. \$1.50 net.

In order to remove impressions from the mind, the author has written the story in the form of a diary.

Central Indiana and a manufacturing town furnish a background for the story. The heroine of it is the daughter of a wealthy manufacturer, and the hero is a journalist and Socialist, by name Victor Dorn. Jane Hastings, the wealthy girl, is college-bred and traveled, a girl of originality and character enough to render a society life, pure and simple, insufficient to meet her needs and fill her interests. Victor Dorn's independence, his scorn of what she has been taught to value most, his study efforts to elevate and train the working class into being able to help themselves, made a strong appeal to Jane Hastings. On Victor Dorn's side the evident preference of a beautiful woman awakens his love, though he is aware that it is a mistake for him to give expression to what he feels.

The book is full of American war politics, the influence of powerful moneyed trusts, the struggle of labor against capital, the triumph of capital and the temporary defeat of labor. The story is by no means new, but it is written with force and a thorough understanding of political conditions and abuses.

It is not a novel in which there is an elaborate plot, but its incidents and all factors that contribute to the working out of a sane and appropriate conclusion.

"Dr. David." By Marjorie Benton Cooke. Illustrated in color by Monte Crews. A. C. McClurg, of Chicago, Ill. \$1.25 net.

Into a brilliant group of New York society folk intimately bound together by the same plane of thought and feeling comes Dr. David Porter, a great specialist in eye troubles, a man known to be famous in Europe and America, a student and day laborer in the laboratory of science, who is bold enough to speak truth to his neighbor at a fashionable dinner and opera party, and thereby incur the displeasure of Mrs. Philip Brandon, leader of her set, a woman accustomed to command deference and win admiration among all men she admits to her acquaintance. The Brandon, husband and wife, like their associates, are a trifle disillusioned and bored with the world and themselves, the husband longing for a home with children in it and representing social amenities, a concession to his wife which wears him immensely.

From the luxurious surroundings of the Brandon's home, there is a long step to the blind children's hospital, where Dr. David spends a part of every day and gives both time and skill to bring back sight and happiness to little men and women on whom the heaviest of all afflictions has been laid.

The description of the doctor's devotion to his juvenile patients and of theirs to the doctor fills one of the best chapters in a book that is devoted to the humanities. The picture seen by Mrs. Philip Brandon at the hospital presents the doctor to her in an altogether new light and arouses a strong feeling of interest for the man and his work.

Afterward Mrs. Brandon loses her sight at the birth of her little son, and is taken by her husband to the mountains of Colorado. Here she makes the acquaintance of Serenity Sargent, who is everything that her name implies, and proves a strong factor in the restoration of Mrs. Brandon to health and strength. The Colorado hills answer the doctor's hope. When he and the Brandon go East Serenity travels with them and takes up social warfare work in New York. The trend of the book thenceforward is steadily towards climate and a conclusion in which there is a readjustment of people in relation to their environment and their conditions and opportunities in life.

Questions touched upon as issues raised in "Dr. David" are those which bear directly upon the happiness of American men and women in their marriage and their homes, in their letting go of the little things and their laying hold of the big things, that make for the betterment of all life. The treatment of these questions is so thoroughly interesting and clever that the book cannot fail to make a most favorable impression upon readers of good fiction.

"Christmas Stories." By Charles Dickens. From Chapman & Hall, London, and Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. The Bell Book and Stationery Company, of Richmond, Va. Two volumes.

These volumes belong to the centenary edition of the works of Charles Dickens, the stories being taken from "Household Words" and "All the Year Round." Each volume has twelve illustrations by Fred Walker, F. A. Fraser, H. French, E. G. Dalziel, J. Mahony, Townley and Charles Green.

The contents of the first volume include "A Christmas Tree," "What Christmas is as We Grow Older," "The Poor Relations' Story," "The Child's Story," "The Schoolboy's Story" and "Nobody's Story." "The Seven Poor Travelers' Story" and others along the same line. The second volume continues the Christmas thoughts begun by the first.

Charles Dickens is acknowledged the world over as an author who has written the tenderest, truest, most pathetic and most joyful Christmas stories. No other author has entered quite so fully and reverently into the real meaning and spirit of the great festival season. Dickens's Christmas children have won thousands of friends among children of all countries. Their names awaken a thrill in hearts young and old who have known and loved them, who will continue to know and love them always.

Nothing better in the way of Christmas gift books could come into the possession of girls and boys, who will find in these stories that will develop in them a genuine appreciation of what they and the world owe to Christmas, which promotes kinship and good fellowship among humanity at large.

"Famous Castles and Palaces of Italy." By Edmund B. D'Auvergne. Charles Scribner's Sons, of New York and London, through the Bell Book and Stationery Company, of Richmond, Va.

Beginning with the Castle of Saint Angelo and the Vatican, this volume deals as a whole with the castles of Bracciano and Spolito, the Castles of Naples, some Norman and Norman castles, the castle of Canosa, those of the valley of the Aosta, three castles near Florence, three famous communal palaces, the castles of Pavia and Milan, Ferrara and Este, the stronghold of the Malatestas, the castle of Mantua and the palaces of Urbino and Pesaro.

These castles and palaces have all been the scene of great events in the history of Italy. The part they have played as the centers of great opposing factions, as the dwelling places of royalty, together with the great celebrations and festivities they have witnessed—these things and many others of value and interest are here recounted.

The book is richly illustrated in color pictures taken from paintings of the castles and palaces described. It contains 297 pages and has a full index.

"White Patch." Retold by Angelo Patri. American Book Co., New York, Cincinnati and Chicago. 40c.

In its original Italian version this story has been very popular with children, and is here adequately translated for the first time for American schools. It tells of the adventures of a little boy who dreams that he is changed into an ant. The wonderful social organization of the ants is clearly and interestingly described; their battles, their work and play, and their insect neighbors and enemies—the bees, the wasps, the ant-lions, the caterpillars and the grubs—are all graphically portrayed. The child who reads the book will not only learn what wonderful creatures ants and bees are, but will never again be cruel to even the most insignificant forms of insect life.

Marie Corelli is the author of a new book to be published by the George H. Doran Co., of New York, on October 7, under the title of "The Life Everlasting." Living in a charming English home at Stratford-on-the-Avon, Marie Corelli is to-day one of the most remarkable figures in the English literary world.

She was called the "Delight of Suburbia"—and among her warmest admirers were Queen Victoria, the Empress of Austria, the Empress of Germany and the King and Queen of Italy.

She was called "impossible" and her books have been read into more than 500 different translations. She was called "shallow"—and Tennyson publicly praised her.

She was called "inartistic"—and Frederick Leighton gave her his unstinted admiration.

Miss Corelli is a small, gracious woman with a mass of golden-gray hair, dimpled cheeks and expressive eyes. But her greatest personal charm perhaps is the limpid softness of her voice. Her home is visited by admirers from all parts of the world, and where Gladstone said to her at their last parting: "It is a wonderful gift you have, and I do not think you will abuse it. There is a magnetism in your pen which will influence many. Take care always to do your best. As a woman you are pretty and good; as a writer, you are brave and true. You've got my great future before you. Don't lose heart on the way!"

Clara E. Laughlin, whose novel, "Children of To-Morrow," a story of New York life, which involves in its plot people of all social grades has just returned to her country from England. Her visit there has been six weeks, and six very busy weeks. She has seen and talked to all the literary celebrities in the British Isles, and she brought back with her a great many vivid impressions, which it is said will be used in a book. She had one especially amusing experience as guest at a literary garden party. One of the attractions of the afternoon was a Punch and Judy show, and the two onlookers immediately in front of Miss Laughlin were William de Morgan and Sir Sidney Colvin. The two were absorbed in the tragedy, especially Mr. de Morgan, who almost sobbed aloud when Punch's victims were laid out in the regulation row. "Now don't tell me," he whispered anxiously to Sir Sidney, "that Punch is to be killed, too."

If she does write a book on England, it certainly ought to be interesting and very bright, as any one who has read her "Children of To-Morrow" just published by the Scribners, and about to pass into its second edition, will agree.

From D. Appleton & Co., of New York, has been received "Eleanor's Junior Hop" by Grace Ethelwyn Cody, illustrated in color by Howard Heath, price \$1.50. This is a specially attractive story of a girl, Eleanor Halbert, and her friends and teachers. The party at the Harvard-Yale football game, the story is written with far more charm than is usual in the case of books for children, and the characters are remarkably well drawn.

"The Girls of Dudley School" comes from the same firm. The book is written by Ellen Douglas Deland, and priced at \$1.50. It relates a year's school experiences of Angelica Stafford, Nan and Sally Rutherford, Sylvia Desmond, and brings into the book their friends and teachers. The party at the Harvard-Yale football game, the story is written with far more charm than is usual in the case of books for children, and the characters are remarkably well drawn.

Two books for boys from the D. Appleton Co. of New York are "A Columbus of Space" with color illustrations, \$1.50, by Garrett P. Stryles, and "A Captain at Fifteen," by Gilbert

Payson Coleman, price \$1.50. The first of these two is a tale for boys of scientific wonders, not unlike the books of Jules Verne, but dealing with facts and possibilities unimagined in his day. The hero of the book is called "A Columbus of Space" because he is the first to take advantage of the power of interatomic energy, navigate the ocean of ether and sail to the shores of another world than ours. Boys who like the Jules Verne type of story will be delighted with this entertaining story of the imagination.

"A Captain at Fifteen" is another sea story of the stirring days of the Revolutionary period, when American privateersmen swept the ocean and disputed successfully British right of way by their bravery and daring. "A Captain at Fifteen" is full of the adventure which a boy loves, and is a book calculated to fire young Americans with pride in their native land and its history.

West Point Social News. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] West Point, Va., September 23.—Mrs. Thomas P. Bagby spent several days recently in Richmond. While in Richmond Mrs. Bagby was the guest of Mrs. A. L. Stratford.

Joseph H. Scott, of Portsmouth, is spending a few days with his sister, Mrs. Thomas P. Bagby.

Mrs. Daniel T. Bland, who was taken to Richmond for medical treatment on Tuesday afternoon, was operated on Wednesday for appendicitis. She is doing very well.

Misses Victoria Lewis went to the R. F. M. Woman's College, at Lynchburg, to study law. Miss Victoria Lewis is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lewis, of Richmond.

Miss Hilda Chilton, a business college in Richmond, Elvin Dillike, to the University of Virginia, Herbert Woodward, to Washington and Lee University, Roscoe Spencer, to Johns Hopkins University, at Baltimore, Warren Topping, to study law at George Washington College, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Lucy Byrd Dudley has resumed her position of teacher at the Indian

Reservation, about eighteen miles above West Point.

Miss Bessie Nunn will resume her place as teacher of the school near Romancoke.

The West Point High School opened on Monday with a fine showing. J. Elwood King, from Glen Allen, a B. S. of Richmond College, is principal. Mrs. Canilla Carlton is spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. Robert Lee Savage, in Parkview, near Portsmouth.

Mrs. A. G. Ware is spending several months with her son, Sheldon, in Arlington, N. J.

Mrs. Charles Bayliss, of Louisville, Ky., and daughter, Mrs. Louis Rock, of New York, who have been visiting relatives in town are now visiting in Bowling Green, Caroline county.

Arvonnia Social News. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Arvonnia, Va., September 23.—Invitations have been issued by David W. Pierce for the marriage of his sister, Miss Elizabeth S. Pierce, to James Allen Jeter, of Powhatan county, the wedding to be celebrated here on Wednesday, September 27.

Mr. and Mrs. David H. Pitts, of Scottsville, visited A. L. Pitts and family here last week.

Rev. Charles M. Barrell, pastor of the Buckingham and New Store Presbyterian Churches of this county, visited Rev. Plummer F. Jones and family last week, while on his way from a meeting of West Hanover Presbytery back to Buckingham.

John T. Oliver, demonstrator and

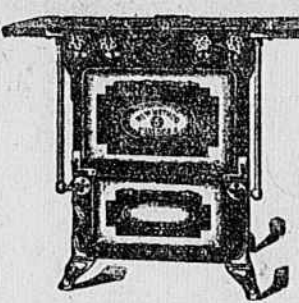
Our Business is to Furnish Homes

Making it possible for families to enjoy home comfort before they feel able to spare the cash for all the necessities.

We conduct the "store that saves you money;" you will find our stock and our prices simply irresistible—the stock by reason of magnitude of variety, the prices by reason of the great gap between them and those other firms have placed on like goods.

Come in and supply your needs, we will arrange terms to suit your convenience.

New Method Gas Ranges



Will save you 25 per cent. in your gas bill. They possess patented improvements not found on any other gas range, and will do the same work quicker than any other. Let us show you.

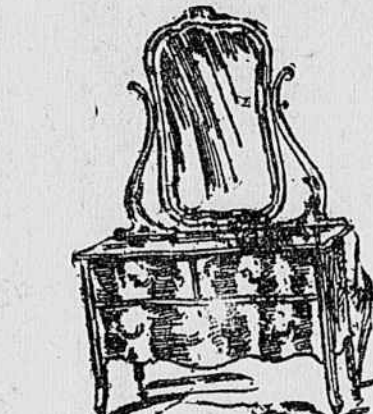


Heaters

No matter what kind of a heater you want, you will find it at this store, and at the right price. Wood Heaters, \$1.48 and up. Coal Heaters, \$3.98 and up. Gas Heaters, Oil Heaters.

Boone Kitchen Cabinets

All styles. Prices start at \$12.75 and up to \$40.00.



\$19.50 BUYS THIS \$28.00 PRINCESS DRESSER. Constructed of solid quarter-sawn oak and polished; large size bevel mirror. An exceptional value.

SPECIALS

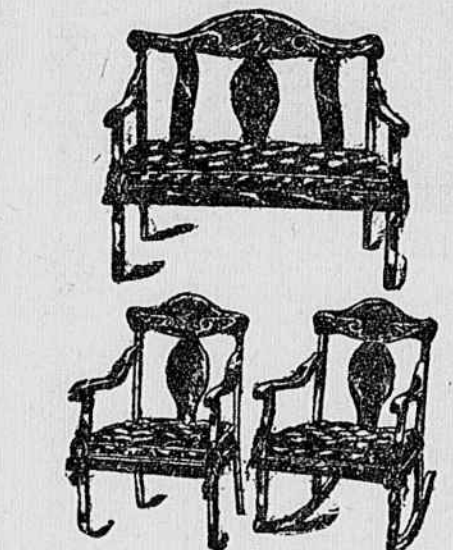
\$6.95 Buys a large size Mission Library Table. \$1.95 Buys a Solid Oak Leather Seat Dining Chair. \$16.50 Buys a Three-Piece BEDROOM SUIT.

Special Sale of Tapestry Brussels Rugs

9x10.6 size Rugs\$10.75
9x12 size Rugs\$12.75
9x12 Axminster Rugs\$22.50
9x12 Extra Velvet Rugs\$20.75

\$3.95 Buys this \$7 Mahogany Rocker

Strong and durable, has shaped saddle seat and polished.



\$22.50 BUYS THIS \$35.00 PARLOR SUIT. Elegantly finished birch-mahogany frames and loose-cushion seats.

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Engagement Announced



special farm agent for the government, visited Arvonnia last week in the interests of the Boys' Corn Club, of which there are thirty members. Hand-some prizes will be given to the most successful of the boys. Mr. Oliver also collected some excellent specimens of corn for the State Fair.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph C. Root, formerly of Indiana, more recently of Pennsylvania, adjoining town to Arvonnia, will return to their home in Penlan this week, after a visit of several weeks to parents in Indianapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas, of Kalumazoo, Mich., but formerly of Fauquier county, who have been visiting relatives in Fork Union, are now visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Graham Thomas here.

Miss Wilma Glover, of Mantoo, and Mrs. W. W. Haskins, of Buckingham, have been visiting at the home of their brother, Dr. Perkins Glover, here. They returned to their homes on Saturday.

Miss Vaughan, of Cumberland, spent several days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Terrell last week.

Henry T. Bican and Dr. Henry Street of Richmond, spent the week-end here with their wives, formerly the Misses Williams, who have been spending some time at their home, "Bryn Arvon."

Mrs. John Randolph entertained the Bridge Club on Wednesday evening. Among those present were Mrs. Henry Sloan, Mrs. Henry Street, Miss Mae Williams, Miss Lottie Mable and John R. Williams.

Mrs. Mary Lizzie Gary was united in marriage to Walter Macey a few days ago. They are now living in their home, Wealthy, near here.

Miss Mary Lee has left to take charge of a school in North Carolina. The four high schools of Buckingham county started up on the 11th. Professor Harry Turner, who has charge of the St. Andrew's School, and Professor J. Walter Kenney is principal of the Dilwyn High School. Miss Fannie Miller is Mr. Kenney's assistant, with Mrs. Kyle as head of the primary department.

A. Chapman Orr, of Petersburg, was a recent visitor here.

Miss Nellie Penrose Vass, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzhugh Vass, of Danville, whose engagement to Thomas M. Myers, of New York, was recently announced at a beautiful luncheon given by Mrs. William Young Noel, in Danville.



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Mrs. A. J. Pile 315 N. Fifth Street, Richmond, Va. Our French method for cleaning ladies' gentlemen's and children's clothing is unsurpassed.

Don't Persecute your Bowels

Cut out cathartics and purgatives. They are brutal and unnecessary. Try CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Purely vegetable. Act gently on the liver, eliminate bile, and soothe the delicate membrane of the bowels. Cure constipation, biliousness, Sick Headache and Indigestion, as millions know. Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price. Genuine must bear Signature.



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